

LICENSED AGENCIES FOR RELIEF IN ASIA (LARA)

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE TECHNICAL BULLETIN

PH&W GHQ SCAP APO 500

January 1948

Note: This technical bulletin supercedes TB - PH - WEL 3 on the same subject issued in September 1947

1. Organization

a. In the United States

Licensed Agencies for Relief in Asia (usually known as LARA) was organized in March 1946 by the Committees for Japan and Korea of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Work Abroad (ACVA) as a committee to coordinate all voluntary agencies seeking to do relief work in the occupied countries. A similar organization known as CRALOG (Committee of Relief Agencies Licensed to Operate in Germany) has been organized earlier by the ACVA and shipments to Germany began in April 1946. The member agencies are mostly the same.

The parent LARA Committee (Address: 122 East 22nd St., New York, (10), N. Y.) at present, has the following membership: American Friends Service Committee; Brethern Service Committee; Church World Service, Inc.; Labor League for Human Rights (A.F. of L.); Luthern World Relief, Inc.; Menonite Central Committee; National C.I.O. Community Services; Salvation Army; War Relief Service (Catholic); Young Mens Christian Association; Young Womens Christian Association.

b. LARA Committee in Japan

Three representatives are authorized for LARA in Japan, namely: Dr. G. Ernest Bott, Church World Service; Miss Esther B. Rhoads, American Friends Service Committee; and Father Harold J. Felsecker, War Relief Service. These representatives are attached to Public Health and Welfare Section, GHQ SCAP, and act as liaison between SCAP and the sending agencies abroad. The LARA address in Japan is: Licensed Agencies for Relief in Asia, Mitsubishi #13, Building 12, 2 Chome, Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, (and APO 500).

In 1946 an agreement was worked out between SCAP and LARA permitting the importation by LARA of relief supplies to be distributed through Japanese government welfare channels under the supervision of SCAP. The LARA program is authorized by SCAPIN 1169 dated August 30th 1946, subject: "Receipt and Distribution of Relief Supplies from Licensed Agencies for Relief in Asia". This SCAPIN provides that the Japanese Government will be responsible for the distribution of supplies.



The responsibility of administering the LARA program within Japan has been placed in the hands of the Social Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Welfare, under the direct supervision of PH&W Section, SCAP. This bureau has in turn set up an advisory committee (called the LARA Central Committee) a group of about twenty public and private welfare workers who meet with representatives of the Ministry of Welfare, SCAP, Eighth Army and LARA.

The LARA Central Committee consists of: Mr. K. Horinouchi, Chairman; Mr. Y. Kasai, Chief, Social Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Welfare; Mr. Hatakenaka, Chief, Supply Section, SAB, Ministry of Welfare; Dr. Kageyama, Seibo Hospital; Dr. T. Saito, Child Specialist; Mr. S. Saito, Repatriation Relief Board; Miss S. Yoshimi, Chief, Child Care Section, Children's Bureau, Ministry of Welfare; Mr. S. Tanikawa, Social Worker, Airindan Settlement; Dr. Bitter, Catholic Rehabilitation Committee; Dr. I. Ayusawa, Labor Relation Board; Mr. Y. Sakurai, National Relief Association; Mr. T. Akagi, Minsei-in. Advisors: Mr. Hara, Japanese Red Cross; Mrs. T. Uchiyama, Kanagawa Prefecture; Mr. A. Ankeney, Tohoku; Mr. Hayashi, Osaka; Fr. M. McKillop, Kyoto (former LARA representative) Mr. Moran, Hyogo Prefecture; Dr. Oiso, Public Health Bureau, Ministry of Welfare.

All distribution is on the basis of need without respect to birth, religion or political affiliation, at no cost to the recipients. Most of the recipients are children under 13 years of age. Because of the danger of LARA goods getting into the black market, if distributed on an outdoor relief basis, most of the supplies are distributed to individuals in institutions recommended by the prefectural departments of welfare. There have been some exceptions which included more than 2,000 bales of clothing, shoes, and some food distributed by the Minsei-in, schools and disaster relief teams to individuals not in institutions.

The LARA representatives are responsible to ACVA in the United States for full reports on arrival of supplies, losses, insurance claims, plans of distribution and progress of the program. They correspond with the sending agencies in regard to the types of supplies to be sent and work closely with the Japanese Government on the allocation of supplies, preparation of publicity material, forwarding pictures, news-stories, letters and other visual aids to ACVA to encourage donations in money and in kind to the LARA program.

## 2. Progress

Since the supplies began arriving in Japan in November 1946, thirty-eight shipments have come in with supplies valued at approximately \$2,000,000. This includes: Food - 5,818 lbs; Medical Supplies - 42,454 lbs; Clothing - 997,167 lbs; Shoes - 12,960 lbs.

The bulk of the supplies come from the United States, however, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Argentine and Hawaii are also contributing. It is estimated that persons of Japanese ancestry have contributed about 15% of the total amount of LARA relief supplies received to date.

The Welfare Ministry estimates that about 1,300 institutions have received supplies and that more than 1,800,000 different individuals have benefited from this supplemental aid.



### 3. Procedure

Bills of lading come from the sending agencies to the LARA representatives who make arrangements for the Japanese Ministry of Welfare to take possession at dock-side. The supplies are trucked to the LARA warehouse (Mitsui Bussan Kaisha) in Yokohama where they are checked and classified.

A Japanese LARA Central Committee in coordination with the Social Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Welfare, works out the plan of allocation for approval by PH&W, SCAP. Prefectural Departments of Welfare are asked to select specific institutions to receive supplies according to the general plan of the LARA Central Committee. In the case of disaster relief the Prefectural Department of Welfare selects the neediest areas and arranges for distribution direct to individuals.

To prefectures in the Tokyo-Yokohama area supplies are sent by truck. To the prefectures farther away, supplies go by special sealed freight car and are met by welfare officials and the warehouse company representative who have received prior notification of the shipment by wire. The breakdown is then made at the local warehouse according to the plan worked out in advance and distribution made by the forwarding company on behalf of the Japanese Government. All expenses of storage, distribution, shipping, in Japan are paid by the Ministry of Welfare.

LARA representatives visit the prefectures from time to time and are usually present at meetings when new projects are launched. These meetings are often arranged by the Ministry of Welfare but the LARA representatives check with Military Government Teams and allow time for consultation with the M.G. Welfare Officer and Japanese officials. They also visit welfare institutions, check warehousing facilities and learn about the peculiar needs of the area.

### 4. Outline of LARA Projects

a. Sustained Programs in Welfare Institutions. Projects included in the sustained program receive continuous aid. Allotments are made once every three months.

(1) Milk for babies whose mothers cannot feed them. Distribution through carefully selected hospitals, clinics and institutions caring for abandoned or sick infants. Total aid in first year, 30,000 babies.

(2) Supplemental ration of 500 calories a day to children in orphanages. Distributed once in three months for a ninety day period with a review at the beginning of each quarter, 20,000 children.

(3) Supplemental ration of 500 calories a day to TB sanatoria emphasizing preventative and incipient care, 12,000 TB patients.

(4) Day nurseries about 200 calories 6 days a week. 6,000 children.

(5) Handicapped and aged about 200 calories a day. 3,000 persons.



b. Special Allocations programs. Projects in the special programs receive one or more allotments depending on the amount of supplies available.

(1) Gift of five (5) lbs. of food and some clothing to war sufferers and repatriates living in hostels or camps where there is adequate supervision. 75,000 persons.

(2) Aid to lepers - supplemental food and clothing for about 10,000 persons.

(3) Disaster Relief - emergency grants, made after check with other active agencies to avoid overlapping or duplicating services. Example: allocation of milk and clothing to earthquake area in January 1947: Iida City, Nagano Prefecture and Aomori City, Aomori Prefecture received aid after these cities were swept by fire in April 1947. Also 320 tons of food and 730 bales of clothing was provided to flood sufferers in Kanto and Tohoku Regions in September 1947.

(4) Grants totaling 400 tons of milk, salt and other food rich in protein and fat were made to help start the school lunch program.

(5) Grants to repatriation reception centers at Maizuru, Sasebo and Hakodate were made. Clothing and food for infants and sick persons was issued.

(6) Distribution of medical supplies through about 100 selected hospitals and clinics.

(7) Distribution of clothing to persons in projects listed above and through other authorized channels such as distribution by the Tokyo Education Bureau of over 12,000 pairs of underdrawers and socks to the neediest teachers in Tokyo and more recently to approximately 80,000 persons in and through Girls' High Schools and Colleges.

(8) Distribution of clothing through the Minsei-in.

(9) Distribution of shoes to children in institutions, repatriates, welfare workers and students in girls' school.

## 5. Outline of Distribution

a. Prefectures in Japan have been divided into the following four allocation groups based on the number of war sufferers:

Group A: Tokyo; Kanagawa; Aichi; Kyoto; Osaka; Hyogo; Hiroshima; Nagasaki.

Group B: Hokkaido; Ibaraki; Mie; Niigata; Miyagi; Tochigi; Saitama; Chiba; Shizuoka; Okayama; Fukuoka; Kagoshima.

Group C: Aomori; Fukushima; Nagano; Gumma; Yamanashi; Gifu; Shiga; Toyama; Ishikawa; Fukui; Wakayama; Kumamoto; Tokushima; Kagawa; Ehime; Kochi; Yamaguchi.



Group D: Iwate; Akita; Yamagata; Nara; Shimane; Tottori; Oita; Saga; and Miyazaki.

b. December 1946

(1) First allocation of food to Group A prefectures; sustained and special programs included 486 institutions (49,626 persons received 557,460 lbs.).

c. January - February 1947.

(1) Clothing distributed to about 500 institutions in Group A prefectures

(2) Earthquake relief in Wakayama, Kochi and Tokushima prefectures.

(3) School lunch program in Tokyo, Kanagawa and Chiba received 100 tons of food.

d. March - April 1947.

(1) First allocation to Group B prefectures. A total of 231,000 pounds of food was provided to 26,127 individuals in 242 institutions distributed as follows:

	No. Individuals	No Institutions	Pounds per person
Babies	1,607	45	13
Children	3,075	68	28
TB	965	18	30
Special	20,480	111	5

Clothing, soap and vitamins were also provided to individuals in Group B prefectures.

(2) Second allocation was provided to prefectures in Group A which included food to persons in the sustained program. A total of 440,661 pounds of food was provided for 17,035 persons in 276 institutions.

	Individuals	Institutions	Pounds per person
Babies	3,180	65	14
Children	9,515	164	28
TB	4,340	47	30

Clothing was provided to the above individuals and also to about 30,000 repatriates and other war sufferers.

(3) First allocation to Group C prefectures. A total of 1,506,320 pounds of food was provided to 20,160 individuals in 253 institutions distributed as follows:



	Individuals	Institutions	Pounds per Person
Babies	720	29	14
Children	2,220	63	28
TB	310	11	30
Special	16,910	150	5

A total of 316 bales of clothing and 1905 pounds of soap was also distributed to these institutions.

e. May-June 1947

(1) Distribution of clothing in and through Girls' High Schools in the six big cities: Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Kyoto, Osaka and Kobe. A total of 1040 bales of clothing containing about 150,000 garments was provided to about 80,000 persons in these six (6) cities.

(2) A second allocation of 200 tons of food was provided for the school lunch program in Tokyo.

(3) The first allocation was made to Group D prefectures. This distribution was made to a total of 7396 persons including 305 babies, 1060 children, 215 tuberculosis cases and 5816 special cases.

f. July - August 1947

(1) A second allocation was provided to Group B prefectures. This allocation provided food for about six thousand (6000) babies, children and tuberculosis patients, and clothing for about 27,000 persons.

(2) A third allocation consisting of food for 18,000 persons and clothing for 50,000 persons was provided to prefectures in Group A.

(3) A second allocation of food for about 3,500 persons and clothing for 21,000 persons was made to Group C prefectures.

(4) A new project was established which provided 200 calories a day for about 5,000 children in day nurseries in Group A prefectures.

g. September - October 1947

(1) Second allocation of food for 1,600 persons and clothing for 6,000 persons in Group D prefectures.

(2) School lunch program was provided with 100,000 pounds of salt.

(3) Special cereal allotments of about ten pounds per person to institutions caring for children, tuberculosis patients, etc. in Group A prefectures.

(4) Girls schools -- clothing and shoes (240 bales) to Hiroshima, Fukuoka, Nagasaki and Sendai.



(5) Flood Relief consisting of 320 tons of food and soap and 730 bales of clothing was distributed in the following prefectures:

	<u>Food</u>	<u>Soap</u>	<u>Clothing</u>
Tokyo	124,420 lbs.	8,000 lbs	150 bales
Saitama	118,140 "	5,490 "	150 "
Tochigi	85,289 "	4,000 "	110 "
Gumma	155,247 "	7,320 "	200 "
Ibaragi	30,477 "	1,490 "	40 "
Miyagi	27,665 "	1,600 "	30 "
Iwate	45,105 "	2,600 "	50 "

h. November - December 1947

(1) Girls' Schools. A total of 270 bales of clothing was distributed to girls' schools in Shizuoka, Yamanashi, Toyama, Fukui, Miyagi, Aomori and Tokyo Prefectures.

(2) Group B Prefectures received the 3rd allocation of food and clothing.

(3) Minsei-in in Tokyo, Kanagawa, Nagoya, Osaka, Kyoto, and Kobe were given the responsibility of distributing 716 bales of used clothing.

(4) Group A Prefectures received the 4th allocation of food, clothing and shoes.

(5) Group C Prefectures received the 3rd allocation of food and clothing.

(6) Day Nurseries received a second allocation of food and clothing.

(7) Leprosaria received a second allocation of food and clothing.

(8) 132 goats received from the Brethren Service Committee were distributed to 30 institutions.

6. Future Programs

LARA representatives expect the supply of relief goods will increase in 1948. It is the desire of the LARA agencies in America that the emphasis may be on rehabilitation as well as relief. The shipment of goats and seeds are part of this program.

There will probably be less cereal called forward and greater quantities of foods rich in protein, fat, calcium and vitamins. Medical supplies will also be reduced since Japanese medicines are becoming more



plentiful. Clothing will be asked for in large quantities with distribution to individuals outside of institutions is now under consideration.

South American Committees for Japanese Relief have been organized. The first shipment from Argentine arrived December 30th and included 3,840 relief packages suitable for distribution to families.

The sending agencies continue to feel a deep concern for students, especially those in large cities where it is difficult to supplement the established ration with homegrown food. Settlements and other social agencies will be asked to extend services to include distribution other than milk for infants.